

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action, all the claims were rejected, wherein the sole independent Claims 14 and 20 were said to be anticipated by the cited Nomura patent. By this response, however, Claims 14 and 20 have been amended in a manner which is believed to render those claims patentably distinct over Nomura as well as over the other cited references.

Particularly, Claims 14 and 20 have been amended to require that the predetermined voltage to which the output lines are reset is “not equal to ground voltage”. First, this claim requirement is supported in Applicants’ Specification beginning at Page 43, line 26, and continuing on to Page 44, wherein it states that “the vertical signal lines are reset to the voltage “VVR”. That voltage, as stated at 6 Page 45, lines 7-9 of the Specification, is required to be “set to a substantially high voltage”; i.e., “not equal to ground voltage” as now required in Claims 14 and 20. The importance of this requirement is that if the reset voltage is set at ground, there may be a case where the field effect transistor does not turn on. However, as described with respect to Applicants’ invention at Page 45, lines 7-13, since the reset voltage gradually decreases, the field effect transistor is always turned on. Moreover, this required voltage feature of Applicant’s claimed invention provides an advantage over the prior art in that the circuit designer is afforded greater flexibility wherein, for example, a common voltage supply may be used for both resetting the output lines and for driving unrelated circuit elements.

Contrary to this claimed requirement as now set forth in the sole independent Claims 14 and 20, the Nomura reference resets the vertical lines to a ground

voltage V1 and V2 via the transistor TR. Again, Applicants respectfully submit that none of the prior art discloses the subject matter of Claims 14 and 20 as now amended.

For these various reasons, Applicants respectfully solicit the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance in this application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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